

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Black Rock Meeting House, Butler Village Inventory Number: BA-176
Address: NW corner Falls Road at Butler Road City: Buter Zip Code: 21023
County: Baltimore County USGS Topographic Map: Hereford
Owner: _____ Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes
Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: _____ Tax Account ID Number: _____
Project: Butler Stone Quarry Agency: Federal Communications Commission
Site visit by MHT staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Is the property located within a historic district? ☒ yes ☐ no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: BA-2214
NR-listed district ☒ yes Eligible district ☐ yes Name of District: Western Run - Belfast Road
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☒ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐ yes

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district) Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☒ yes ☐ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:
Maryland Historical Trust Library, Crownsville, Maryland

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Black Rock Meeting House in Butler Village was most recently observed and photographed in February, 2003. Its condition was largely unchanged since the preparation of the State Historic Sites Inventory Form in the library of the Maryland Historical Trust, dated September 1976..

The property is described in the following document(s) located at the Maryland Historical Trust Library:

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form, by Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr., September 1976.

The following observations were made during the February, 2003 visit to the property:

The Black Rock Meeting House continues to contribute to the historic character of Butler. This stone Baptist meeting house has been well-maintained and is a contributing resource to its district. The structure apparently dates from the 1820s. The character of its design and its excellent condition qualify it for registration under Criterion C: Design/Construction.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐
Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None
MHT Comments

Contributes to NRHD

[Signature]
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

6/11/03
Date

[Signature]
Reviewer, NR Program

6/30/03
Date

NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Black Rock Meeting House, Butler Village

Inventory Number: BA-176

Page 2

Prepared by: William C. Riggs, RA Date Prepared: 5/19/2003



SITE VICINITY MAP

Hereford Quadrangle, MD
(Dated 1991)
SCALE: As Shown



Determination of Eligibility
Black Rock Meeting House (BA-176)
Falls Road at Butler Road
Butler, Baltimore Co., Maryland 21023



BUTLER VILLAGE BA-176 (BANK & MEETING HOUSE)
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
PHOTO BY K. ELGIN
FEB 2003
NEGATIVE LOCATION: MD SHPO

BA-176
Butler Village, Butler MD 21023

02.03



BUTLER VILLAGE PA-176 (BLACK IRON MOUNTAIN HOUSE)
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
PHOTO BY: K. ELGIN
2/03
NEGATIVE LOG: VHS SHPS

BA-176
Butler Village, Butler MD 21023

02.03

031 70 176

Black Rock (Baptist) Meeting House
Northwest corner of Falls and
Butler Roads
Accessible
Date: 1820-1830

The Black Rock Meeting House is a one story gable roofed stone building on three acres, dating from around 1828 when the congregation was organized during the era of the Baptist Separation. Its simplicity reflects the austere philosophy of the Old School Baptist Congregation. **Among** the fourteen original members were representatives of local families such as the Coles, Ensors and Scotts. Having purchased a lot from the Johns family, the congregation began building shortly after it was formed.

On February 28, 1832, an address expressing the views of the Primitive Baptist Congregation there, known as the Black Rock Address, set forth beliefs adopted by all Primitive Baptist Churches in the Northeastern United States who thereafter became known as Black Rockers. Changes to the structure since then have been minimal.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Black Rock (Baptist) Meeting House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Northwest corner of Falls and Butler Roads

CITY, TOWN

Butler

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES - RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES - UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

J. Wheeler Ensor, Secty Particular Primi-Telephone #: 252-3453

STREET & NUMBER

tive Baptist Church at Black Rock
1511 Bellona Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Lutherville

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21093

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Baltimore City Courthouse

Liber #: TK 336

Folio #: 159

STREET & NUMBER

Calvert and Lexington Streets

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Baltimore County Landmarks Survey

DATE

1971

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☒ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Baltimore County Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Black Rock Meeting House is a one storey gable-roofed stone structure probably dating from 1828, or shortly thereafter, the year this congregation was organized. Its south facade is five bays in length, its north facade four. The principal entrance, consisting of a pair of late 19th century two-paneled doors, with transom above, is centered in its east end flanked by a single window on each side. A door (or possibly a window) was in the middle bay of the south facade, now closed with stone, much of which has been bonded into adjacent walling. Four windows are in both the south and north facades. Three windows were in the west end, now all eliminated with stone walling. Large roughly-worked stone lintels support masonry above each opening, and the lintels remain in place above the eliminated ones. Sills are, likewise, of roughly-worked stone. Two false windows (without frames) are in each gable end, closed with fixed louvred blinds. Typical windows are fitted with 2/2 sash flanked by shutters with louvres in their upper parts, raised panels below. The stone walls, with their roughly-worked quoins, extend about half a storey above typical first storey openings to provide adequate height internally for galleries, now missing.

The interior is a single space. The ceiling follows the rafters and collar beams. Walls are plastered and the ceiling is finished with boards. Wainscoting probably dates from the late

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1828 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The utter simplicity of the Black Rock Meeting House reflects the austere philosophy of its Old School Baptist congregation.

The church was organized in 1828 at Patapsco in Howard County, Maryland. Among the fourteen original members of Black Rock were representatives of such local families as the Coles, Ensors and Scotts.

Having purchased a lot from the Johns family, the congregation erected this church building. It was during the era of the Baptist Separation (1825-1840) and there were many heated debates which resulted in the formation of the Primitve Baptists.

On February 28, 1832 an address expressing the views of the congregation was prepared and adopted. It became known as the Black Rock Address and was directed to "the particular Baptist Churches of the Old School in the United States". From this date, Primitve Baptist churches in the northeastern states, adopting the beliefs set forth in the Address, became known as "Black Rockers".

In 1860, the congregation purchased land for a cemetery from Mr. Evan Davis. They frequently held two day meetings attended by friends and relatives from throughout the surrounding countryside. Although the size of the membership has diminished, recently, regular monthly meetings are still held in the church with a preacher visiting from Baltimore City.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. (Philadelphia, 1877).

Sidney, J.C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland. (Baltimore, 1850).

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3 acres ±

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION

For Valleys Historical District Project

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1114 Bellemore Road

TELEPHONE

323-3798

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Continuation Sheet #1

Question #7 continued

19th or the very early 20th century, contemporary with the 2/2 sash. The pews, with their scrolled ends, are probably original; they are arranged in three banks with two aisles. The Renaissance-revival pulpit furniture, dating from ca. 1875, is within an earlier balustrade consisting of slim turned newels and rectangular balusters supporting a round rail. Four large brass kerosene lights hang from the ceiling.

Continuation Sheet #2

Question #9 continued

Berry, W.J. compiler. The Kehukee Declaration and Black Rock Address.
(Primitive Publications, Elon College, N.C.) n.d.

BA 176



Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation
BALTIMORE COUNTY
Real Property Data Search

[Go Back](#)
[View Map](#)
[New Search](#)

Account Identifier: District - 05 Account Number - 0516000025

Owner Information

Owner Name: AMERICAN UNION OF BAPTISTS INC Use: EXEMPT
Principal Residence: NO
Mailing Address: C/O VICTOR H LAWS
107 N BAPTIST ST Deed Reference: 1) / 1072/ 98
SALISBURY MD 21801 2)

Location & Structure Information

Premises Address
2304 BUTLER RD

Zoning

Legal Description

3.75 AC NS BUTLER RD
PARTIAL EXEMPT
NW COR FALLS RD

Map	Grid	Parcel	Sub District	Subdivision	Section	Block	Lot	Group	Plat No:
33	8	29						81	Plat Ref:

Special Tax Areas Town
Ad Valorem
Tax Class

Primary Structure Built	Enclosed Area	Property Land Area	County Use
0000		3.75 AC	01
Stories	Basement	Type	Exterior

Value Information

	Base Value	Value As Of 01/01/2002	Phase-in Assessments As Of 07/01/2003	As Of 07/01/2004
Land:	41,000	66,500		
Improvements:	0	0		
Total:	41,000	66,500	58,000	66,500
Preferential Land:	0	0	0	0

Transfer Information

Seller: PARTICULAR PRIM TIVE BAPTIST	Date: 06/15/1988	Price: \$0
Type: NOT ARMS-LENGTH	Deed1: / 1072/ 98	Deed2:
Seller:	Date:	Price:
Type:	Deed1:	Deed2:
Seller:	Date:	Price:
Type:	Deed1:	Deed2:

Exemption Information

Partial Exempt Assessments	Class	07/01/2003	07/01/2004
County	000	0	0
State	000	0	0
Municipal	000	0	0

Tax Exempt: COUNTY AND STATE
Exempt Class: CEMETERIES (CHURCH)

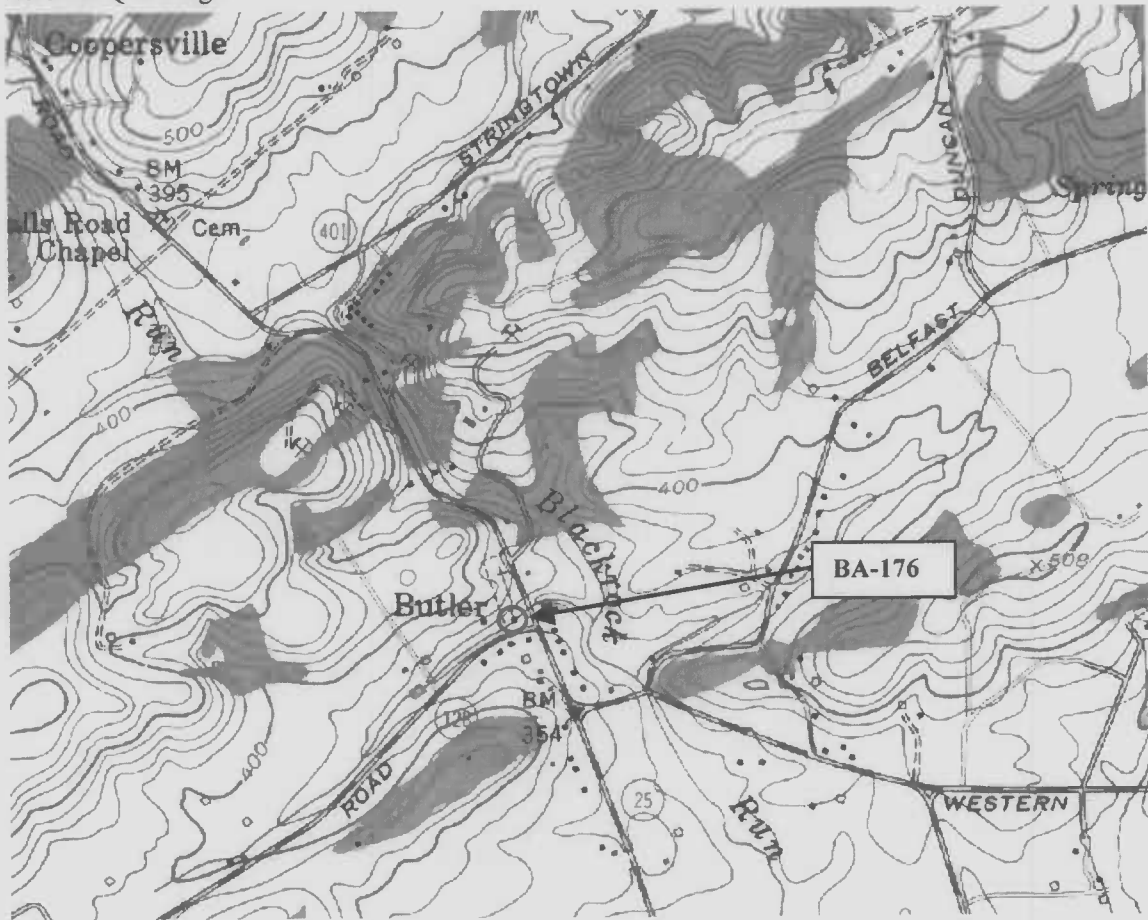
Special Tax Recapture:

* NONE *

See Baltimore County Panormy, p. 201

An aerial photograph showing a road that runs diagonally from the top left towards the bottom right. To the right of the road, there is a cluster of buildings, including a larger one with a light-colored roof and a smaller one below it. A black circle is drawn around the smaller building. The surrounding area is a mix of fields and trees.

BA-176
 Black Rock (Baptist) Meeting House
 2304 Butler Road (MD 128), Butler
 Hereford Quadrangle



1993-95 Aerial Photo

Tax Map 33, p. 29 & 290

